

Draft 2002 Right Whale Gear Analysis

NOTE: A final version will be provided as part of the 2002 Large Whale Entanglement Report

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.			
Field No.	J040702	Date 1 st Observed Entangled	04/07/02
Location 1 st Observed	33 42 77 52 Frying Pan Shoals, NC	Type of Event - Observation, Disentanglement, Stranding. Other (describe)	Observation 8/24/02 Partial Disentanglement
Species	Right Whale	Gear Retrieved (y/n)	Yes
Individual ID	3120	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved		8/24/02	Gear Retrieved By	CCG,CCS,NEAq,& others
Date Gear Received		9/3/02	Received From	C.Slay, NEAq
Sources:	USCG		Date Set	October 2001
	CCS		Date Lost	October 2001
	Fisherman	Owner interview 9/9/02	Location	SSW Matinic Green Island, ME
	Other		Depth	30 fm
			Bottom Type	Hard
Gear Type:	inshore lobster gear		Target Species:	Lobster

Gear Description:

Gear consists of a bullet buoy (with a 4 digit number) on a PVC stick and 6 pieces of line (2 each of three line types). Attached to the buoy stick is 10 feet of 3/8" sinking rope. Another 8 foot piece of the same line was present. There is a 10 foot length of 5/16" floating rope attached to with a fisherman's knot to a 90 foot length of 7/16" floating rope. Also present is an additional 8 foot length of the 5/16" floating rope and a 28 foot length of the 7/16" rope.

Comments:

Description of gear from owner interview (by:J.Higgins 9/9/02). Two traps on a single buoy. The gear was set having 30 fm of floating rope on the bottom and 12 fm of sinking rope at the surface. The sink rope was buoyed at the surface using 2 buoys, a 5" x 11" pot buoy and a 6" x 14" pot buoy. The 5" x 11" buoy was part of the gear removed during the 8/24/02 disentanglement, the 6" x 14" pot buoy was missing. Floating rope was used between the traps.

Conclusions:

All the gear recovered in this partial disentanglement belongs to the individual interviewed and had been set in state waters.

Report By:	J. F. Kenney	Date:	3/3/03	Current Location of Gear	Kingston, RI
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FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.			
Field No.	J070602	Date 1 st Observed Entangled	7/6/02
Location 1 st Observed	BOF, Brier Island 44E 18.7' N, 66E 23.1' W	Type of Event - Observation, Disentanglement, Stranding. Other (describe)	Disentanglement
Species	Right whale	Gear Recovered (y/n)	Yes
Individual ID	3107	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	9/1/02	Gear Retrieved By	NEAq		
Date Gear Received	9/17/02	Received From	C. Slay, NEAq.		
Sources:	USCG	Date Set			
	CCS	Date Lost			
	Fisherman	Location			
	Other	Depth			
		Bottom Type			
Gear Type:	Consistent with Inshore Lobster gear	Target Species:			
<u>Gear Description:</u> Gear consists of 120 feet of 3/8" sinking rope tied into one end of a 600# weak link swivel. It is a single piece of line with an eye splice at the buoy end, and a frayed bitter end on the bottom. Attached to the top side of the swivel are 2 plastic buoy sticks each 32" long and an 8" trawl can.					
<u>Comments:</u> After untangling the line and buoys, the length of line between the surface gear and the tail wrap measured approximately 65 feet. This would indicate that the whale was approximately 40 feet below the surface when the gear was encountered.					
<u>Conclusions:</u> While no trap was seen or recovered and no other identification present to establish ownership, the gear recovered is consistent with inshore lobster gear.					
Report By:	John Kenney	Date:	9/19/02	Current Location of Gear	Kingston, RI

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FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.			
Field No.	J071202	Date 1 st Observed Entangled	07/12/02
Location 1 st Observed	East of Atlantic City, NJ	Type of Event - Observation, Disentanglement, Stranding. Other	Partial disentanglement
Species	Right whale	Gear Recovered (y/n)	Yes
Individual ID	1427	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	7/12/02	Gear Retrieved By	CCS
Date Gear Received	7/24/02	Received From	CCS
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	
	CCS	Date Lost	
	Fisherman	Location	
	Other	Depth	
		Bottom Type	
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	
<u>Gear Description:</u> Gear removed consisted of 268 feet of 5/8" diameter green floating rope.			
<u>Comments:</u> The whale was tagged during this disentanglement, however, 5 days later the tag was removed by a charter vessel captain.			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Origin of gear unknown.			
Report By:	J.F. Kenney	Date:	7/29/02
		Current Location of Gear	Narragansett, RI D-11